

News Release

Lorna Hollowell joins U of M, Crookston as Director of Diversity and Multicultural Programs

By Itollefs on Friday, August 17, 2012Lorna Hollowell (right) has been hired as director of diversity and multicultural programs at the

University of Minnesota, Crookston. She comes to the campus from Owensboro Community and Technical College in Owensboro, Ky, where she served as director of cultural diversity, and she previously worked as an educational talent search advisor for Madisonville Community College, also in Kentucky. She began her responsibilities on campus on Monday, July 23, 2012.

In the role of director of diversity and multicultural programs on the Crookston campus, Hollowell believes institutions of higher education should be flagships of diversity and multiculturalism.

"Forming bridges and collaborative relationships with community organizations, secondary partners, and other post-secondary institutions is vital to creating and maintaining a diverse, inclusive and welcoming community", she says. "I want to do my best to insure that all students, domestic and international, feel welcomed and included in coordinating and participating in community-wide events to explore and showcase various cultures."

She describes her philosophy on diversity "as the exploration, appreciation, and celebration of all the ways we differ", noting that "As we explore our differences, we realize how much we are alike." She is excited to be on campus. "I am impressed with the diversity I see on campus and in the community of Crookston," Hollowell says. "It is very refreshing and provides fertile ground for all that UMC desires to do to promote diversity throughout the campus and community.

Since her arrival on campus, Hollowell has been busy meeting with student groups, staff, and administration. The first event she is coordinating is a celebration of Hispanic and Latino History Month and the Mexican Independence Day, which will be held on Sunday, Sept. 16, from 5 to 6:30 p.m. The evening will include history, storytelling, music, dancing, and refreshments.

The event will conclude with an informational presentation on the Development, Relief, and Education for Alien Minors Act, known as the DREAM Act. The legislation is open to individuals ages 15 to 31, who came to the country before they were 16 and have lived here continuously for at least the past five years. They must be free of serious criminal convictions, be enrolled in or have completed high school, or have served in the U.S. military. The presentation will provide information and help raise awareness. For more information on the DREAM Act, visit [www.ed.gov](#).

Her work is already focusing on the future including events in observance of Native American History Month, Black History Month, European History Month, Religious History, Asian/Pacific Islander History Month, Disability Awareness Month and more. Hollowell encourages everyone to watch for details about upcoming events on the campus Web site at [www.umcrookston.edu/today](#).

Hollowell earned her bachelor of science in organizational management from Oakland City University in Indiana, and has completed coursework for certification in international student services at Western Kentucky University in Bowling Green, Ky. She is currently pursuing an executive master of science in organizational communication through Murray State University, Murray, Ky. Today the University of Minnesota, Crookston delivers 26 bachelor's degree programs, 18 minors, and 36 concentrations, including 10 online degrees, in the areas of agriculture and natural resources; business; liberal arts and education; and math, science and technology. With an enrollment of 1,600 undergraduates from 25 countries and 40 states, the Crookston campus offers a supportive, close-knit atmosphere that leads to a prestigious University of Minnesota degree. "Small Campus. Big Degree." and is celebrating 150 years as an U.S. land grant university. To learn more, visit [www.umcrookston.edu](#).



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